

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of facilitating a project bid process, the method comprising:

generating a buyer-associated bid request utilizing at least a portion of bid item selections of a stored bid item list;

transmitting the buyer-associated bid request to at least one supplier for solicitation of a supplier bid response to be generated with the bid item selections utilized in the buyer-associated bid request;

generating a supplier-associated bid request utilizing at least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the buyer-associated bid request; and

transmitting the supplier-associated bid request to at least one subcontracting entity for solicitation of a subcontracting-entity bid response to be generated with the bid item selections utilized in the supplier-associated bid request.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of generating the buyer-associated bid request further comprises:

receiving buyer-associated bid request data from the buyer for the buyer-associated bid request; and

storing the buyer-associated bid request data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

receiving the supplier bid response; and

wherein the supplier bid response includes bid response data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the buyer-associated bid request.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

receiving the subcontracting-entity bid response; and

wherein the subcontracting-entity bid response includes bid response data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the supplier-associated bid request.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 4, further comprising transmitting the supplier bid response to the buyer upon completion of all required ones of the fields by the supplier.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 5, further comprising transmitting the subcontracting-entity bid response to the supplier upon completion of all required ones of the fields by the subcontracting entity.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 4, further comprising:  
receiving an acceptance of the subcontracting-entity bid response;  
receiving a selection of at least a portion of the bid response data included in the subcontracting-entity bid response; and  
updating the supplier bid response with the selected at least a portion of the bid response data included in the subcontracting-entity bid response.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 7, further comprising transmitting the supplier bid response to the buyer.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 8, further comprising receiving a buyer request to access data relative to the subcontracting-entity bid response.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 3, wherein the step of transmitting the buyer-associated bid request comprises selecting the at least one supplier to receive the buyer-associated bid request using the buyer-associated bid request data.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 4, wherein the step of transmitting the supplier-associated bid request comprises selecting the at least one subcontracting entity to receive the supplier-associated bid request using the supplier-associated bid request data.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 10, wherein the step of selecting the at least one supplier further comprises:  
maintaining supplier information associated with the at least one supplier; and

comparing the buyer-associated bid request data with the supplier information to select the at least one supplier.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of selecting the at least one subcontracting entity further comprises:

maintaining subcontracting-entity information associated with the at least one subcontracting entity; and

comparing the supplier-associated bid request data with the subcontracting-entity information to select the at least one subcontracting entity.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving the subcontracting-entity bid response;

receiving the supplier bid response;

receiving a supplier bid award;

transmitting a purchase requisition to the supplier;

transmitting a parsed purchase requisition to the subcontracting entity; and

wherein the parsed purchase requisition is a subset of the purchase requisition.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 14, wherein the purchase requisition is submitted to the supplier for purposes of acceptance and tax assessment.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 14, wherein the parsed purchase requisition is submitted to the subcontracting entity for purposes of acceptance and tax assessment.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

receiving a completed parsed purchase requisition from the subcontracting entity;

and

generating a completed purchase requisition.

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 17, wherein the step of generating the completed purchase requisition comprises aggregating at least one completed purchase requisition.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 17, further comprising:  
generating a buyer-associated purchase order to the supplier;  
generating a supplier-associated purchase order to the subcontracting entity;  
responsive to a determination that the subcontracting entity may be paid directly  
by the buyer, generating a buyer-associated purchase order to the subcontracting entity.

20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of  
generating the supplier-associated bid request further comprises:  
receiving supplier-associated bid request data from the supplier for the supplier-  
associated bid request;  
wherein the supplier-associated bid request data is selected from buyer-associated  
bid request data; and  
storing the supplier-associated bid request data within fields associated with at  
least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the buyer-associated bid request.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer system for facilitating a bid process  
for a project involving a buyer, a supplier, and at least one subcontracting entity, the computer  
system comprising:

a database system for maintaining a configurable pre-established bid item list and  
a bid template for the project;

wherein the bid template includes bid item selections selected from the bid item  
list;

a server connected to the database system and connectable to the buyer, the  
supplier, and the at least one subcontracting entity; and

wherein the server is operable to:

generate a buyer-associated bid request utilizing the bid template;

transmit the buyer-associated bid request to the supplier;

generate a supplier-associated bid request via a parsing of the supplier-  
associated bid request;

transmit the supplier-associated bid request to the at least one  
subcontracting entity;

receive a subcontracting entity bid response to the supplier-associated bid  
request;

receive a supplier bid response, the supplier bid response incorporating, at least in part, data from the subcontracting entity bid response.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 21, wherein generation of the buyer-associated bid request further comprises:

receiving buyer-associated bid request data from the buyer for the buyer-associated bid request; and

storing the buyer-associated bid request data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 22, wherein the supplier bid response includes bid response data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the buyer-associated bid request.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 23, wherein the subcontracting entity bid response includes bid response data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the supplier-associated bid request.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer system of claim ~~[[25]]~~ 21, wherein the server is further operable to transmit the supplier bid response to the buyer.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 25, wherein the server is further operable to transmit the subcontracting entity bid response to the supplier.

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 24, wherein the server is further operable to:

receive an acceptance of the subcontracting entity bid response;

receive a selection of at least a portion of the bid response data included in the subcontracting entity bid response; and

update the supplier bid response with the selected at least a portion of the bid response data included in the subcontracting entity bid response.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the server is further operable to transmit the supplier bid response to the buyer.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 28, wherein the server is further operable to receive a buyer request to access data relative to the subcontracting entity bid response.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 23, wherein the transmission of the buyer-associated bid request comprises selecting the at least one supplier to receive the buyer-associated bid request using the buyer-associated bid request data.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 24, wherein the transmission of the supplier-associated bid request comprises selecting the at least one subcontracting entity to receive the supplier-associated bid request using the supplier-associated bid request data.

32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 30, wherein the selection of the at least one supplier further comprises:  
maintaining supplier information associated with the at least one supplier; and  
comparing the buyer-associated bid request data with the supplier information to select the at least one supplier.

33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 31, wherein the selection of the at least one subcontracting entity further comprises:  
maintaining subcontracting entity information associated with the at least one subcontracting entity; and  
comparing the supplier-associated bid request data with the subcontracting entity information to select the at least one subcontracting entity.

34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 31, wherein the server is further operable to:  
receive a supplier bid award;  
transmit a purchase requisition to the supplier;

transmit a parsed purchase requisition to the subcontracting entity; and  
wherein the parsed purchase requisition is a subset of the purchase requisition.

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 34, wherein the purchase requisition is submitted to the supplier for purposes of acceptance and tax assessment.

36. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 34, wherein the parsed purchase requisition is submitted to the subcontracting entity for purposes of acceptance and tax assessment.

37. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 34, wherein the server is further operable to:

receive a completed parsed purchase requisition from the subcontracting entity;  
and  
generate a completed purchase requisition.

38. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 37, wherein the generation of the completed purchase requisition comprises aggregating at least one completed purchase requisition.

39. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 37, wherein the server is further operable to:

generate a buyer-associated purchase order to the supplier;  
generate a supplier-associated purchase order to the subcontracting entity; and  
responsive to a determination that the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer, generate a buyer-associated purchase order to the subcontracting entity.

40. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 21, wherein the generation of the supplier-associated bid request further comprises:

receiving supplier-associated bid request data from the supplier for the supplier-associated bid request;

wherein the supplier-associated bid request data is selected from buyer-associated bid request data; and

storing the supplier-associated bid request data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the buyer-associated bid request.

41. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) In a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon, the computer-executable instructions comprising:

means for generating a buyer-associated bid request utilizing at least a portion of bid item selections of a stored bid item list;

means for transmitting the buyer-associated bid request to at least one supplier for solicitation of a supplier bid response to be generated with the bid item selections utilized in the buyer-associated bid request;

means for generating a supplier-associated bid request utilizing at least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the buyer-associated bid request; and

means for transmitting the supplier-associated bid request to at least one subcontracting entity for solicitation of a subcontracting-entity bid response to be generated with the bid item selections utilized in the supplier-associated bid request.

42. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 41, wherein the means for generating the buyer-associated bid request further comprises:

means for receiving buyer-associated bid request data from the buyer for the buyer-associated bid request; and

means for storing the buyer-associated bid request data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections.

43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 42, further comprising:

means for receiving the supplier bid response; and

wherein the supplier bid response includes bid response data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the buyer-associated bid request.

44. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 43, further comprising:



means for receiving the subcontracting-entity bid response; and  
wherein the subcontracting-entity bid response includes bid response data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the supplier-associated bid request.

45. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 44, further comprising means for transmitting the supplier bid response to the buyer upon completion of all required ones of the fields by the supplier.

46. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 45, further comprising means for transmitting the subcontracting-entity bid response to the supplier upon completion of all required ones of the fields by the subcontracting entity.

47. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 44, further comprising:

means for receiving an acceptance of the subcontracting-entity bid response;  
means for receiving a selection of at least a portion of the bid response data included in the subcontracting-entity bid response; and  
means for updating the supplier bid response with the selected at least a portion of the bid response data included in the subcontracting-entity bid response.

48. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 47, further comprising means for transmitting the supplier bid response to the buyer.

49. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 48, further comprising means for receiving a buyer request to access data relative to the subcontracting-entity bid response.

50. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 43, wherein the means for transmitting the buyer-associated bid request comprises means for selecting the at least one supplier to receive the buyer-associated bid request using the buyer-associated bid request data.

51. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 44, wherein the means for transmitting the supplier-associated bid request comprises selecting the at least one subcontracting entity to receive the supplier-associated bid request using the supplier-associated bid request data.

52. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 50, wherein the means for selecting the at least one supplier further comprises:

means for maintaining supplier information associated with the at least one supplier; and

means for comparing the buyer-associated bid request data with the supplier information to select the at least one supplier.

53. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 51, wherein the means for selecting the at least one subcontracting entity further comprises:

means for maintaining subcontracting-entity information associated with the at least one subcontracting entity; and

means for comparing the supplier-associated bid request data with the subcontracting-entity information to select the at least one subcontracting entity.

54. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 51, further comprising:

means for receiving the subcontracting-entity bid response;

means for receiving the supplier bid response;

means for receiving a supplier bid award;

means for transmitting a purchase requisition to the supplier;

means for transmitting a parsed purchase requisition to the subcontracting entity;

and

wherein the parsed purchase requisition is a subset of the purchase requisition.

55. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 54, wherein the purchase requisition is submitted to the supplier for purposes of acceptance and tax assessment.

56. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 54, wherein the parsed purchase requisition is submitted to the subcontracting entity for purposes of acceptance and tax assessment.

57. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 54, further comprising:

means for receiving a completed parsed purchase requisition from the subcontracting entity; and

means for generating a completed purchase requisition.

58. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 57, wherein the means for generating the completed purchase requisition comprises means for aggregating at least one completed purchase requisition.

59. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 57, further comprising:

means for generating a buyer-associated purchase order to the supplier;

means for generating a supplier-associated purchase order to the subcontracting entity; and

means for generating a buyer-associated purchase order to the subcontracting entity responsive to a determination that the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer.

60. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 51, wherein the means for generating the supplier-associated bid request further comprises:

means for receiving supplier-associated bid request data from the supplier for the supplier-associated bid request;

wherein the supplier-associated bid request data is selected from buyer-associated bid request data; and

means for storing the supplier-associated bid request data within fields associated with at least a portion of the bid item selections utilized in the buyer-associated bid request.

61. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method of managing a project bid process, the method comprising:

- receiving an enablement request relative to a subcontracting entity;
- receiving an affiliation request relative to a primary supplier, the affiliation request requesting that the subcontracting entity be affiliated with the primary supplier;
- transmitting a buyer-associated bid request to the supplier;
- transmitting, to the subcontracting entity, of a daisy chain quotation associated with the buyer-associated bid request;
- receiving a completed daisy chain quotation from the subcontracting entity, the completed daisy chain quotation comprising completed applicable daisy chain quotation items of the daisy chain quotation transmitted to the subcontracting entity;
- updating a supplier bid response to the buyer-associated bid request using at least some of the completed applicable daisy chain quotation items; and
- transmitting the updated supplier bid response to the buyer.

62. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 61, further comprising:

- transmitting a buyer bid award to the supplier;
- transmitting a purchase requisition to the supplier;
- parsing the purchase requisition; and
- transmitting the parsed purchase requisition to the subcontracting entity.

63. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 62, further comprising:

- receiving a completed purchase requisition from the subcontracting entity;
- aggregating the completed purchase requisition received from the subcontracting entity; and
- transmitting a purchase order to at least one of the supplier and the subcontracting entity.

64. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 63, wherein the step of transmitting the purchase order comprises:

- determining whether the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer;
- and

responsive to a determination that the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer:

transmitting a purchase order to the supplier;  
parsing the transmitted purchase order to segment purchase order details relative to the subcontracting entity; and  
transmitting a parsed purchase order to the subcontracting entity.

65. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 63, wherein the step of transmitting the purchase order comprises:  
determining whether the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer;  
and  
responsive to a determination that the subcontracting entity may not be paid directly by the buyer, transmitting a purchase order to the supplier.

66. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 63, further comprising transmitting a subcontracting entity voucher to the supplier.

67. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 63, further comprising transmitting a supplier voucher to the buyer.

68. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 66, further comprising transmitting a supplier voucher to the buyer.

69. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 67, further comprising receiving a buyer voucher approval.

70. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 68, further comprising receiving a buyer voucher approval.

71. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 69, further comprising transmitting an invoice to the buyer.

72. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 70, further comprising transmitting an invoice to the buyer

73. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) In a computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored thereon, the computer-executable instructions comprising:

- means for receiving an enablement request relative to a subcontracting entity;
- means receiving an affiliation request relative to a primary supplier, the affiliation request requesting that the subcontracting entity be affiliated with the primary supplier;
- means for transmitting a buyer-associated bid request to the supplier;
- means for transmitting, to the subcontracting entity, of a daisy chain quotation associated with the buyer-associated bid request;
- means for receiving a completed daisy chain quotation from the subcontracting entity, the completed daisy chain quotation comprising completed applicable daisy chain quotation items of the daisy chain quotation transmitted to the subcontracting entity;
- means for updating a supplier bid response to the buyer-associated bid request using at least some of the completed applicable daisy chain quotation items; and
- means for transmitting the updated supplier bid response to the buyer.

74. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 73, further comprising:

- means for transmitting a buyer bid award to the supplier;
- means for transmitting a purchase requisition to the supplier;
- means for parsing the purchase requisition; and
- means for transmitting the parsed purchase requisition to the subcontracting entity.

75. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 74, further comprising:

- means for receiving a completed purchase requisition from the subcontracting entity;
- means for aggregating the completed purchase requisition received from the subcontracting entity; and

means for transmitting a purchase order to at least one of the supplier and the subcontracting entity.

76. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 75, wherein the means for of transmitting the purchase order comprises:

means for determining whether the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer; and

means responsive to a determination that the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer:

for transmitting a purchase order to the supplier;

for parsing the transmitted purchase order to segment purchase order details relative to the subcontracting entity; and

for transmitting a parsed purchase order to the subcontracting entity.

77. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 75, wherein the means for transmitting the purchase order comprises:

means for determining whether the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer; and

means, responsive to a determination that the subcontracting entity may not be paid directly by the buyer, for transmitting a purchase order to the supplier.

78. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 75, further comprising means for transmitting a subcontracting entity voucher to the supplier.

79. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 75, further comprising means for transmitting a supplier voucher to the buyer.

80. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 78, further comprising means for transmitting a supplier voucher to the buyer.

81. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 79, further comprising means for receiving a buyer voucher approval.

82. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 80, further comprising means for receiving a buyer voucher approval.

83. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 81, further comprising means for transmitting an invoice to the buyer.

84. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer-executable instructions of claim 82, further comprising means for transmitting an invoice to the buyer.

85. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer system for managing a project bid process, the computer system comprising:

- a database system;

- a server connected to the database system, wherein the server is operable to:

- receive an enablement request relative to a subcontracting entity;

- receive an affiliation request relative to a primary supplier, the affiliation request requesting that the subcontracting entity be affiliated with the primary supplier;

- transmit a buyer-associated bid request to the supplier;

- transmit, to the subcontracting entity, of a daisy chain quotation associated with the buyer-associated bid request;

- receive a completed daisy chain quotation from the subcontracting entity, the completed daisy chain quotation comprising completed applicable daisy chain quotation items of the daisy chain quotation transmitted to the subcontracting entity;

- update a supplier bid response to the buyer-associated bid request using at least some of the completed applicable daisy chain quotation items; and

- transmit the updated supplier bid response to the buyer.

86. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 85, wherein the server is further operable to:

- transmit a buyer bid award to the supplier;

- transmit a purchase requisition to the supplier;

- parse the purchase requisition; and

- transmit the parsed purchase requisition to the subcontracting entity.



87. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 86, wherein the server is further operable to:

receive a completed purchase requisition from the subcontracting entity;  
aggregate the completed purchase requisition received from the subcontracting entity; and  
transmit a purchase order to at least one of the supplier and the subcontracting entity.

88. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 87, wherein the transmission of the purchase order comprises:

determining whether the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer;  
and  
responsive to a determination that the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer:

transmitting a purchase order to the supplier;  
parsing the transmitted purchase order to segment purchase order details relative to the subcontracting entity; and  
transmitting a parsed purchase order to the subcontracting entity.

89. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 87, wherein the transmission of the purchase order comprises:

determining whether the subcontracting entity may be paid directly by the buyer;  
and  
responsive to a determination that the subcontracting entity may not be paid directly by the buyer, transmitting a purchase order to the supplier.

90. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 87, wherein the server is further operable to transmit a subcontracting entity voucher to the supplier.

91. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 87, wherein the server is further operable to transmit a supplier voucher to the buyer.

92. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 90, wherein the server is further operable to transmit a supplier voucher to the buyer.

93. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 91, wherein the server is further operable to receive a buyer voucher approval.

94. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 92, wherein the server is further operable to receive a buyer voucher approval.

95. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer system of claim 93, wherein the server is further operable to transmit an invoice to the buyer.